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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/626,011

07/23/2003

Abraham B. de Waal

NVDA/P000654

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11/03/2006

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EXAMINER

TRAN, TUYETLIEN T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2179

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/626,011

Applicant(s)

DE WAAL, ABRAHAM B.

Examiner

TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 July 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This application has been examined. The original claims 1-32 are pending. The examination results are as follows.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 17-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

As to claims 17-25, a "computer-readable medium" is being recited; however, as disclosed by the specification, a computer-readable medium is taught to include transmission media such as light wave and carrier wave. Light wave and carrier wave are non-statutory subject matter.

As to claim 26, a "system" is being recited; however, as disclosed by the specification, a system is taught to be software, per se. A system with no structural and functional interrelationship between computer elements is computer software by itself. Computer software, per se, is considered non-statutory subject matter

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Butler et al. (Patent No. 6,018,340, hereinafter simply referred to as Butler).

As to claims 1, 17 and 26, Butler teaches:

A method of organizing at least one window on at least one computer monitor (see Fig. 4 and text from col. 19, lines 28-36), the method comprising:

creating boundaries on the at least one computer monitor (i.e., the boundaries of monitor spaces 41 and 43 as shown in Fig. 4), the boundaries forming at least one window area (i.e., monitor spaces 41 and 43 containing i.e., windows A, B, C, D) therebetween; and

associating the at least one window area with a window (i.e., windows A, B, C, D).

As to claim 10, Butler teaches:

A system for organizing at least one window (see Fig. 4 and Fig. 4), the system comprising:

a processor (i.e., computer 300 in Fig. 3);

at least one computer monitor coupled to the processor (i.e., display monitors 330 and 332); and

a user interface coupled to the processor (i.e., graphical user interface as shown in Fig. 4), the user interface configured to receive input from a user (i.e., the user can manipulate the objects in the interface by controlling cursor 25 in Fig. 4) and facilitate creating boundaries on the at least one computer monitor (i.e., the boundaries of monitor

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spaces 41 and 43), the boundaries forming at least one window area (i.e., monitor spaces 41 and 43 containing i.e., windows A, B, C, D) therebetween,

the user interface further configured to facilitate associating the at least one window area with a window (i.e., windows A, B, C, D).

As to claim 27, Butler teaches:

A computer-based display system (see Fig. 4), comprising:

a user input element for enabling a user to define window areas on a display (see Fig. 7); and

a processing element for causing at least one window to be displayed on the display (i.e., windows A, B, C, D in Fig. 4), wherein window shape and window placement are dependent on the user-defined window area in which the window is positioned (i.e., windows A, B, C, D are positioned and shaped differently as shown in Fig. 4).

As to claims 2, 11, 18, and 28, Butler further teaches wherein the window comprises an application (i.e., window 80 comprises an mail application, see Fig. 12(a)).

As to claims 3, 12, 19, and 29, Butler further teaches wherein the window comprises text (i.e., text "Michigan" in window 90 as shown in Fig. 11(a)).

As to claims 4, 13, and 20, Butler teaches further comprising placing the window in an at least one window area associated therewith (i.e., window 70 is placed in the monitor space 41, see Fig. 12(a) and corresponding text).

As to claims 5 and 21, Butler teaches further comprising placing the window in an at least one window area associated therewith (i.e., window 90 can be adjustable, see Fig. 11(a) and Fig. 11(b)).

As to claims 6 and 22, Butler teaches further comprising moving at least one boundary (i.e., the boundary of monitor space 41 is moved to the right, see Fig. 7).

As to claims 7, 14, 23, and 30, Butler teaches further comprising sizing the window in an at least one window area associated therewith (i.e., the size of monitor spaces 41 and 43 can be adjustable, see Fig. 4 and Fig. 7).

As to claims 8, 15, 24 and 31, Butler teaches further comprising adjusting a shape of a window area (i.e., the shape of monitor spaces 41 and 43 are changed as shown in Fig. 4 and Fig. 7).

As to claims 9, 16, 25 and 32, Butler further teaches wherein at least one of the window areas spans a plurality of monitors (i.e., window 90 spans two monitors, see Fig. 11(a)).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach similar display management in a single or multiple monitor environment.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TuyetLien (Lien) T. Tran whose telephone number is 571-270-1033. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Friday: 7:30 - 5:00, off on alternating Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

T.T
10/26/2006

Lien Tran
Examiner
Art Unit 2179


BA HUYNH
PRIMARY EXAMINER